

The young left the nest on June 19. They were joined by the male, and for three or four days the family stayed in the yard. They then left for a vacant lot, where they remained for three or four weeks. Then the female abandoned them, to return to her old nest and raise another family. The same family routine was repeated as in the first, until the brood left on August 18. The male again joined his family in the yard and then to the vacant lot, where they remained together until migration.—KATIE M. ROADS, *Hillsboro, Ohio*.

The Re-use of Nest Material.—Mr. John B. Lewis, in the June issue of the WILSON BULLETIN, notes the disappearance of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers' and Ruby-throated Hummingbirds' nests after the young had left and his observations suggest the re-use of the material either by the original builder or another bird of the same species. Another cause for the disappearance of such nests may be suggested by the occurrence in two instances of an old Wood Pewee's nest as an interior ornament of a Red-shouldered Hawk's nest. Description of a nest found in Jefferson Township, Cook County, Illinois, April 16, 1893, mentions this detail, and that of another found in Northfield Township, in the same county, April 10, 1898, also notes it. Perhaps an old lichen-covered nest attracts hawks as snake-skins do Crested Flycatchers. Incidentally, the circumstance that I have found onion skins and bits of waxed paper in the nests of the latter species, prompts the thought that it is not because it is a snake-skin but because of its glitter that the object is picked up.—EDWARD R. FORD, *Chicago, Ill.*

An Encounter Between a Cooper's Hawk and a Horned Owl.—On July 7, 1931, I was visiting a juvenile Great Horned Owl that had previously been tethered on the ground for a study of its food habits in a woodlot west of Pine Bluff, Wisconsin. The adult owl that was taking care of the youngster appeared at my approach, alighted in a tree near by, and started the usual hostile demonstration of hooting and bill snapping. As if in answer to the hoots, the cry of a Cooper's Hawk came from deeper in the woods, and an instant later a female hawk dashed at the adult owl with terrific speed. Like a skilled boxer, the owl ducked, barely evading the hawk's talons. Several times in very short order the owl had to dodge as the raging hawk struck from all sides.

During the first part of this performance, the owl had been nearly as much concerned on account of my proximity to the juvenile as it had been with the attacks of the Cooper's Hawk. Finally, things became sufficiently hot that the owl left the branch upon which it had perched, and launched forth in direct and purposeful chase of the Cooper's Hawk, which kept just ahead of her larger pursuer for several yards before doubling back, to wheel and strike again. The hawk behaved as though utterly maddened, but she never let herself get quite within reach of the owl's talons. Her safety was plainly dependent upon her superior agility and precision of movement. For a brief space the action became so fast that I could not see exactly what was happening, especially at close quarters when it seemed that neither bird could avoid being hit. However, it is improbable that damage was done, for not even a feather was noted to fall. The hawk soon went her way, cackling as she flew, and the owl was free once more to center upon me its earnest attention. The hawk gave no evidence of having seen me.

A search of a few minutes revealed the hawk's nest 110 yards away. Two juveniles, ready to fly, were perched on the rim.—PAUL L. ERRINGTON, *Ames, Iowa*.